

Message Text

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INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD EGE QEEC YO DA

SUBJ: VISIT OF DANISH MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RE-
LATIONS TO YUGOSLAVIA

1. DANISH AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED WITH ME OCT 29 VISIT
OF HIS MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS NORGAARD
DURING WEEK OF OCT 13. DANES QUITE SYMPATHETIC TO GOY PROBLEMS
VIS-A-VIS EC. MINISTER, ALTHOUGH CAREFUL TO INDICATE
NOT SPEAKING FOR EC SUGGESTED YUGOSLAVS RE-THINK THEIR
RELATIONSHIH WITH EC. HE SUGGESTED THAT GOY WOULD
BENEFIT BY BILATERAL TREATY ALONGLINES OF FINNISH,
SWEDISH AND AUSTRIAN PATTERN WHICH ISRAELIS RECENTLY
NEGOTIATED. YUGOSLAVS WERE TOLD THAT AS JUST ANOTHER
DEVELOPING COUNTRY THEIR SHARE OF EUROPEAN MARKET
WILL INEVITABLY BE SQUEEZEDBY OTHER LESS DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES WHOSE CLAIM FOR PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT
IS EVEN MORE COMPELLING AND WHOSE WAGE STRUCTURE
WOULD MAKE YUGOSLAV GOODS LESS COMPETITIVE.

2. YUGOSLAVS RESPONDED THAT SUCH COURSE WOULD PRESENT
POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES, I.E., INCONSISTENT WITH NON-
ALIGNED POSITION. DANES ARGUED FINNISH AND SWEDISH
EXAMPLES AS WELL AS LOME CONVENTION AND GOY INDICATED
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THEY WOULD CONSIDER IT.

3. SOVIETS, ACCORDING TO GOY, HAVE BEEN TELLING THEM AS WELL AS OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THAT THEY HAVE NO REAL CHANCE DEALING WITH EC INDEPENDENTLYJM ONLY COMECON/EC NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE EFFECTIVE.

4. DISCUSSION OF EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK FINANCING OF YUGOSLAV PROJECTS CENTERED ON THOSE PROJECTS BROUGHT UP BY GOY TO EC WHICH HAVE INHERENT ADVANTAGES TO EC, I.E., SUPER HIGHWAY CROSSING YUGOSLAVIA, MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND COASTAL TOURIST FACILITIES.

5. COMMENT: GOY OBVIOUSLY WANTS CAKE AND EAT IT, TOO. WOULD LIKE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH EC WITHOUT FORMAL TREATY CARRYING RISK OF IMPAIRING NON-ALIGNED MYSTIQUE AS WELL AS COMECON CONNECTION. GOY ALWAYS SENSITIVE TO REMARKS AMONG THIRD WORLD NATIONS THAT THEIR REAL INTERESTS ARE IN EUROPE. GOY HOPES TO EXPLOIT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, AND ALTHOUGH SOME PROGRESS, THEIR HOPES SEEM TO ME GROSSLY EXAGGERATED. EVENTUALLY THEY MUST COME TO TERMS WITH YUGOSLAVIA'S ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE WITH EUROPE. IT SEEMS TO ME DANISH TRADE MINISTER HAS PUT THEM RIGHT IN THE BOX.
SILBERMAN

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